

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 8, and 9 are pending in this Application. Applicants have editorially amended various claims. Applicants have added new claims 8 and 9 to claim additional features of the invention and to provide varied protection for the invention. Claims 2, 5, and 6 are withdrawn. Claim 7 was previously cancelled. No new matter is added.

It is noted that the claim amendments are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability. Further, Applicants specifically state that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 3 and 4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. However, for at least the reasons discussed below, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims herein are allowable.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Delobel et al. (US Patent No. 4,663,928, and hereinafter "Delobel").

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection in the following discussion.

I. THE CLAIMED INVENTION

The claimed invention (e.g., as defined by exemplary claim 1) is directed to a tape winding device for a wire material.

The tape winding device includes rising a tape feed section that includes a hollow shaft having a throughhole for passing the wire material therethrough, a tape pad secure part secured to the hollow shaft for fixing a tape pad on which a tape body is wound, and a first drive source for driving rotatively the tape pad secure part, and a tape winding section that includes a tape winding flyer installed coaxially on an outside of the tape feed section in a rotatable manner, a plurality of tension control rolls each installed on a flat surface of the tape winding flyer parallel with the hollow shaft, and a second drive source connected to the tape winding flyer.

The tape body is supplied from the tape pad to the tape winding flyer with a rotation

by the first drive source, a tension of the tape body supplied to the tape winding flyer is made constant by the plurality of the tension control rolls, and the tape body is wound on the wire material at a tip of the hollow shaft by a rotation of the second drive source.

With this structure, the winding tension of the tape could be made to be a constant value by the tension control rolls of the tape-wound section. Accordingly, a porous tape body having a porosity of 60% or more and 0.09 mm thickness can be wound by the tape winding device (e.g., see Application at page 20, lines 2-6).

II. THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

The Examiner alleges that Delobel anticipates claim 1.

Applicants respectfully submit, however, that the alleged reference does not teach or suggest each and every feature of the claimed invention.

That is, Delobel does not teach or suggest, “*a plurality of tension control rolls each installed on a flat surface of the tape winding flyer parallel with the hollow shaft,*” (emphasis added by Applicants) as recited in claim 1.

The Examiner attempts to analogize drum 15 and ring 16 of Delobel to the claimed tape winding flyer, and ring 21, chain 22, gear 23, and pulley 8 of Delobel to the claimed plurality of tension control rolls.

Delobel teaches that ring 21 is attached to a surface of the alleged drum 15, while the alleged chain 22, gear 23, and pulley 8 are spaced apart from the alleged drum 15 and ring 16 (Fig. 1). This is different, and fails to teach or suggest that each of the plurality of tension control rolls is installed on a flat surface of the tape winding flyer parallel with the hollow shaft, as claimed in claim 1. Thus, Delobel fails to satisfy the plain meaning of the above claimed limitation, and therefore, fails to teach or suggest claim 1.

Indeed, in the claimed invention, as shown in the exemplary Figs. 1 and 2 of the present Application, each of the plurality of tension control rolls 110 and 120 (all reference numerals herein being exemplary instances and for the Examiner’s understanding only and not for limiting the claims in any manner) is installed on a flat surface of the tape winding flyer 107 parallel with the hollow shaft 101.

With the claimed invention, the winding tension of the tape could be made to be a constant value by the tension control rolls of the tape-wound section. Accordingly, a porous

tape body having a porosity of 60% or more and 0.09 mm thickness can be wound by the tape winding device (e.g., see Application at page 20, lines 2-6).

Delobel, however, fails to teach or suggest this feature of the claimed invention.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Delobel fails to teach or suggest each element of Applicant's claimed invention, and requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

III. NEW CLAIMS

New claims 8 and 9 have been added to claim additional features of the invention and to provide more varied protection for the claimed invention. No new matter has been added. The claims are independently patentable because of the novel features recited therein.

Applicants submit that new claims 8 and 9 are patentable at least because of similar reasons to those set forth above with respect to claims 1, 3, and 4.

Furthermore, Applicants submit that new claims 8 and 9 are directed to the invention of Species II, which was elected in the Response filed on April 27, 2011.

IV. FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

Applicants have amended the title and abstract in a manner believed fully responsive to the Examiner's objections.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1, 3, 4, 8, and 9, all the claims presently under examination, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

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